

# RYA TRAINING NOTICE

Implementation date: 1 March 2017  
Reference: TN 17-17



## Changes to the Adventure Activities Licence

### Applies to:

- **RYA Training Centres recognised to run Dinghy, Keelboat, Multihull and Windsurfing schemes**

Watersports such as sailing, windsurfing and other craft whose principal means of propulsion is the wind, come under scope of the Adventure Activity Licensing Regulations (AALR) and therefore require an Adventure Activity Licence. The regulations exclude vessels which are subject to a requirement for a certificate issued under the Merchant Shipping Act. This exemption has historically applied to vessels certified under the Small Commercial Vessel Code of Practice, meaning RYA Recognised Training Centres (RTCs) operating under the Sail Cruising scheme have been exempt.

In 2012 the RYA and the Maritime and Coastguard Agency entered into an agreement whereby recognition of an RYA RTC under the RYA's conditions of recognition for the RYA Dinghy, Windsurfing and Power schemes is deemed to be equivalent to certification under the Small Commercial Vessel Code of Practice.

As a consequence of this the Adventure Activity Licensing Service (AALS) agree that an RTC recognised for and delivering the RYA Dinghy or Windsurfing schemes now comes under the scope of the Merchant Shipping exemption and no longer requires an Adventure Activity Licence due to this activity.

**Note: This exemption only applies to activity covered by RYA recognition. For example, if an RTC conducts other activity which comes under the scope of the Adventure Activity Licensing, such as kayaking, then it continues to require a licence.**

The Adventure Activity Licensing Service provide a list of exemptions from the requirement to hold a license:

[Exemptions from holding an Adventure Activities Licence](#)

The RYA has issued guidance on the AALR as it relates to clubs and recognised training centres:

[Guidance note on Adventure Activities Licensing](#)

Guidance concerning the application of the AALR is available from the UK's Health and Safety Executive website:

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/priced/l77.pdf>

### Summary:

The Adventure Activity Licensing Service (AALS) has agreed that an RTC recognised for and delivering the RYA Dinghy or Windsurfing schemes now comes under the scope of the Merchant Shipping exemption and no longer require an Adventure Activity Licence.

This exemption only applies to activity covered by RYA recognition. For example, if an RTC conducts other activity which comes under the scope of the Adventure Activity Licensing, such as kayaking, then it continues to require a licence.

### Keeping Current:

For guidance on other areas of RYA Training see:

[www.rya.org.uk/go/keeping-current](http://www.rya.org.uk/go/keeping-current)